Effects on health of coal mine labourers

3395. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the likely effects on the health of the labourers engaged in the mining of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the status of study and the step taken by Government to improve health of the labourers engaged in the mining of coal; and

(d) the details of the medical facilities available to these labourers irrespective of their working status/position being provided by various coalfields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and would be laid down on the Table of the House.

(d) In Coal India Ltd. (CIL), the medical Out Patient Division (OPD) and indoor facilities are being provided to labourers through Colliery dispensaries, regional hospitals and central hospitals situated in different subsidiaries. If required, they are referred to empanelled hospitals and also different tertiary care hospitals in other parts of the country for specialized treatment irrespective of their working status/position.

Singareni Coal Collieries Ltd. (SCCL) has seven hospitals and 28 dispensaries. There are no super-speciality services in SCCL hospitals. The employees and their direct dependents who are in need on super-speciality services are referred to about 20 empanelled super speciality hospitals at Hyderabad and nearby places and the expenditure is borne by the SCCL.

Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. (NLC) has a general hospital with 389 bed facility offering services like General medicine, General surgery, Occupational Health Services, Paediatrics, Neo-natology, Intensive Care, Renal Care, Reproductive and Child Health, Eye, Dental, Ortho, ENT, Skin, Revised National Tuberculosis Programme, Integrated counseling and Emergency Services providing holistic treatment care to the employees, labourers and their dependents. NCL hospital has tie-up arrangement with leading multi-speciality hospitals in Chennai, Puducherry for super speciality services in case of need.

Allotment/auction of coal blocks

3396. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allotment of coal blocks is affecting the economy in the scale of production;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to discourage the same;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government's move to auction coal blocks has been strongly opposed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?